

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 An interface unit connected between a telephone
and a telephone network sets a data transmission speed
to an optimum speed. The interface unit transmits a
type query signal to the telephone terminal at a first
speed. The telephone terminal transmits a type signal
to the interface unit at the first speed in response
to the type query signal. When the interface unit
receives the type signal from the telephone terminal,
10 the interface unit changes a transmission speed to
a second speed higher than the first speed if the
received type signal indicates that the telephone
terminal is capable of transmitting data at the second
speed. The interface unit also transmits a speed
15 change request to the telephone terminal at the second
speed.